

From: Washburn, Ben
Sent: Wed 7/23/2014 9:50:13 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 7/23/14

OPA Daily Digest for 7/23/14

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.); Sen. Roy Blunt (Mo.); Rep. William Lacy Clay (Mo.); Rep. Ann Wagner (Mo.) – Letter – 7/18/14: West Lake Landfill. Due: 8/1/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

Wall Street Journal – John Emshwiller – 7/9/14: Questions about isolation barrier project at West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

KMOX Radio - 4 Members of Congress Send Letter to EPA Over West Lake Landfill - 7/23/14 - A stern letter from the region's four Congressional representatives warns the EPA about the radioactive West Lake Landfill. Soil testing continues at baseball fields near the landfill, and the letter says that Senators Claire McCaskill and Roy Blunt and Congressmen Ann Wagner and Lacy Clay want to know the results. Early screen are clear.

<http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/07/22/4-members-of-congress-send-letter-to-epa-over-west-lake-landfill/>

Associated Press - Cleanup of lead at eastern Missouri park nearing an end - 7/23/14 - A three-year project to clean up lead pollution is nearing an end at a popular Missouri state park on the site of a shuttered mine. Francois County's St. Joe State Park, known for its sand flats, hills and 2,000 acres set aside for all-terrain vehicles, sits on land in the eastern part of the state that once included a dump for mine waste called tailings, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported this week.

<http://www.lakenewsonline.com/article/20140722/News/140729744#ixzz38ImW6rGw>

The Cap Times - Richard Eidlin: EPA's carbon rules good for business, good for economy - 7/23/14 - Some national business organizations have hammered the Environmental Protection Agency for proposing new rules on carbon pollution from existing power plants, cutting carbon emissions by 30 percent by 2030, using 2005 levels as a baseline. What planet are they on?

http://host.madison.com/ct/news/opinion/column/richard-eidlin-epa-s-carbon-rules-good-for-business-good/article_d5045a88-ba49-572b-ad00-518514bdd172.html

Bloomberg News - EPA working on new fuel economy standards - 7/23/14 - The U.S. is trying to craft new requirements by next year for how automakers assess fuel economy to ensure lab tests reflect real-world driving, an Environmental Protection Agency official said.

<http://www.kansascity.com/news/business/article785581.html#storylink=cpy>

The Hill - OVERNIGHT ENERGY: Industry gangs up on EPA climate rule - 7/22/14 - On Tuesday, leading industry groups laid out their grievances in a united front against the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) signature climate rule. Groups like the American Petroleum Institute (API), which said earlier this month that lobbying against the EPA's regulations to cut carbon dioxide from existing power plants would not be a priority, joined the push against it Tuesday

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/overnights/213058-overnight-energy-industry-gangs-up-on-epa-climate-rule#ixzz38IoteNtU>

Forbes - EPA Radiation Monitoring Back Up To Snuff: Inspector General - 7/22/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency has upgraded its RadNet system for detecting radioactive fallout, the EPA's Office of the Inspector General reported today, two years after the inspector general criticized the agency for lapses in management and maintenance of the system.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/jeffmcmahon/2014/07/22/epa-radiation-monitoring-back-up-to-snuff-inspector-general/>

Huffington Post - EPA Takes the Next Critical Step Toward Protecting Wild Salmon and Stopping the Massive Pebble Mine - 7/22/14 - Last Friday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency formally proposed limitations that would block the massive, ill-conceived Pebble Mine project -- the controversial proposal to mine gold and copper at the headwaters of the pristine Bristol Bay wild salmon fishery in Alaska that faces overwhelming local opposition.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/joel-reynolds/epa-takes-the-next-critic-pebble-mind_b_5611575.html

Energy Collective - Power Over Pollution: How Legal Enforceability Will Drive Implementation of EPA's Power Plant Rule - 7/23/14 - Last month, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed CO2 emission guidelines for existing power plants. Once EPA issues the final rule in 2015, each State (except for Vermont) can submit a plan to EPA describing how it will meet its power sector carbon intensity target by 2030, or it can accept a plan written by EPA.

<http://theenergycollective.com/ari-peskoe/439281/power-over-pollution-how-legal-enforceability-will-drive-implementation-epa-s-powe>

Associated Press - Oops! EPA goes off topic, tweets about Kardashian - 7/23/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency's fight to clean up water pollution got a splash of pop culture Tuesday, thanks to an Internet flub involving reality TV star Kim Kardashian.

<http://www.kansascity.com/entertainment/article783568.html#storylink=cpy>

Wichita Eagle - Brownback says it again: I'm for wind energy - 7/23/14 - Gov. Sam Brownback reaffirmed his support of wind energy Wednesday and called for opponents of renewable energy standards to work out a compromise with wind energy supporters.

<http://www.kansas.com/2014/07/23/3564580/brownback-says-it-again-im-for.html#storylink=cpy>

The Hill - Republican senator slams EPA chief: 'You don't run this country' - 7/23/14 - Senate Republicans on Wednesday accused Environmental Protection Agency chief Gina McCarthy of trying to run America by proposing new rules to cut carbon pollution from existing power plants. McCarthy is the public face of the agency's new carbon rules, which are a key pillar of President Obama's second-term climate change agenda.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/213121-mccarthy-defends-climate-rule-before-enraged-gop>

Fox News - \$1.5 million at center of internal EPA battle over Superfund contractor's alleged overbilling - 7/23/14 - Fifteen months after a report charged the Environmental Protection Agency with failing adequately to oversee Superfund cleanup efforts at some of the country's most toxic waste dumps, the EPA's internal watchdog and EPA management are battling over \$1.5 million that the inspectors said in the probe was illegally overbilled between 2008 and 2012 by the clean-up contractor.

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/07/23/15-million-at-center-internal-epa-battle-over-superfund-contractors-alleged/>

Forbes - Nuclear-Renewable Mix Is Just What The EPA Ordered - 7/23/14 - A lone nuclear power plant, Columbia Generating Station, near Richland, Wash., generated a record 9.7 billion kilowatt hours of electricity for the fiscal year that ended June 30. The reactor has been operating since 1984 and has produced well over 200 billion kWhrs of electricity averaging between 4 and 5¢ per kWhr.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2014/07/23/nuclear-renewable-mix-is-just-what-the-epa-ordered/>

The Hill - Small biz owners support EPA water rule, polls says - 7/23/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) controversial plan to regulate small bodies of water around the country may have found some unlikely supporters: small business owners. A new poll from the left-leaning American Sustainable Business Council released Wednesday found that 80 percent of small business owners say they would support provisions of the EPA's Waters of the U.S. rule.

<http://thehill.com/regulation/213107-small-business-owners-support-epas-waters-rule-polls-says#ixzz38JqEyYPS>

The Daily Signal - Property Rights at Stake in EPA's Water Power Grab - 7/23/14 - Thanks to the federal government, it soon may become far more difficult to use and enjoy private property. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers want to make a water—and land—grab that should scare everyone.

<http://dailysignal.com/2014/07/23/property-rights-stake-epas-water-power-grab/>

Farm and Ranch Guide - What do the proposed EPA rules really mean? - 7/23/14 - No one has ever said that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) creates rules that are easy to understand. The current proposal deals with Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS). It is not being welcomed by farm organizations, such as the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) and the National Farmers Union (NFU).

http://www.farmandranchguide.com/news/regional/what-do-the-proposed-epas-rules-really-mean/article_fd3e04f8-11bb-11e4-8bd0-001a4bcf887a.html

State Journal - EPA administrator testifies before US Senate committee on Clean Power Plan benefits - 7/23/14 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy testified before a U.S. Senate committee July 23 regarding the carbon-cutting Clean Power Plan that was announced June 2. In the first Senate hearing since the rule was first announced, McCarthy presented testimony at the Environmental and Public Works Committee hearing, titled “Oversight Hearing: EPA’s Proposed Carbon Pollution Standards for Existing Power Plants.”

<http://www.statejournal.com/story/26093422/epa-administrator-testifies-before-us-senate-committee-on-clean-power-plan-benefits>

Washington Times - EPA chief McCarthy, critics spar at Senate hearing over new rules - 7/23/14 - EPA chief Gina McCarthy issued a strong defense of controversial proposed new curbs on carbon emissions from power plants, telling a packed Senate hearing Wednesday the agency talked to all sides in the debate before issuing its draft recommendations.

[http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jul/23/epa-chief-mccarthy-critics-spar-senate-hearing-ove/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Nation-TheWashingtonTimesAmericasNewspaper+\(Nation%2FPolitics+-+The+Washington+Times](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jul/23/epa-chief-mccarthy-critics-spar-senate-hearing-ove/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Nation-TheWashingtonTimesAmericasNewspaper+(Nation%2FPolitics+-+The+Washington+Times)

The Hill - Senate Republicans meet with EPA's McCarthy on regs - 7/31/14 - Republicans on the Senate Agriculture Committee met with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) chief Gina McCarthy to criticize the agency's proposal to redefine its jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), a member of the Agriculture panel, said he also used the Tuesday meeting to criticize the EPA's carbon emissions proposal for power plants.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/213096-mcconnell-meets-with-epas-mccarthy-on-climate-rule#ixzz38JuyP8dM>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

7/23/14 – Senior Leadership Retreat for Regional Administrators, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/24/14 – National Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Lynn

Slugantz, 7883

7/28/14 – Tribal Visit, Kickapoo Tribe, Horton, Kan. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29/14 – Tribal Visit, Winnebago Tribe, Winnebago, Neb., Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29-30/14 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/31/14 – Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo.
Contact: David Cozad, 7587

8/6/14 - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

8/11/14 – Clean Power Plan Forum with Utility Executives, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Mary Peterson, 7882

8/13/14 – Iowa Association of Business & Industry, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

DRA:

7/23-7/24/14 Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana

Peters, 7444

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton,
7039

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

9/29-30/14 - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

SUPR

None

WWPD

8/18-21/14 – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592